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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4500

INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

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RUEALIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS SKOPJE 000329

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/SCE, IO/UNP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KUNR OPDC PREL PHUM UNGA MK

SUBJECT: MACEDONIA WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT USG POSITION ON

UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL CANDIDATES

REF: A. STATE 56707

¶B. STATE 55461

(SBU) P/E Chief delivered ref A and B points and ref A letter on the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) to MFA State Counselor Milan Spirodonovski and Multilateral Affairs Head of Unit Tanya Dinevska on April 11. Spirodonovski said his section would discuss the US pledge proposal in further detail. However, he and Dinevska both agreed that the GOM would "take into account" the US criteria contained in the ref A letter in evaluating candidates for the HRC. Dinevska noted that the GOM, as an EU candidate country, also would have to take into account the EU position on HRC candidates -- where there was a unanimous EU position on a candidate, Macedonia likely would support that position. If the EU lacked consensus on a candidate, Macedonia would follow the USG lead.